

ABSTRACT

A system and method for allowing handwritten information messaging among users of interconnected computers. Information content, including text and handwritten stroke 5 information, is presented to the user in a graphical user interface (GUI) provided on a user's computer system. The messaging method provides for multimedia, handwritten and text messaging. The non-text data is layered among the usual text messages, after having been suitably scaled and repositioned. Additionally, the present invention provides for annotation, modification and deletion of items presented anywhere in an 10 Instant Messaging record. Users are alerted to annotations by hyperlinks. The method is adapted for use with Personal Digital Assistants (PDA's) as well as other type clients. The method includes a late join feature, allowing users connecting to an IM session already in progress access to the complete record of the IM session. Ink and text input on predefined business forms displayed to the user are also permitted.

15